

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 SCEM-02 SCI-06 INT-08 DRC-01 /127 W

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P R 201837Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8830

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, WB, GW

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - FUEL SHORTAGES

REF: (A) STATE 227144; (B) BONN 16657

1. ACTING BRITISH CAA CULLIMORE TOLD US THIS AFTERNOON (NOV 20) THAT LONDON HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE WITH AN ARRANGEMENT FOR AN EQUITABLE ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE FUEL AMONG IGS CARRIERS; BUT BELIEVED DETAILS SHOULD BE WORKED OUT BY THE AIRLINES THEMSELVES. CULLIMORE'S INSTRUCTIONS ALSO INCLUDED A STATEMENT OF THE BRITISH VIEW THAT CUTS IN BEA/PAA SERVICE ARISING FROM THE PRESENT FUEL SCARCITY WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE BRITISH POSITION RE LONGER RANGE IGS CAPACITY REDUCTIONS.

2. WE TOLD CULLIMORE THAT AN ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE AIRLINES TO SHARE AVAILABLE FUEL RESOURCES IN BERLIN

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APPEARED TO BE A SATISFACTORY APPROACH FOR THE PRESENT

AND WE URGED THAT HE ENCOURAGE BEA, BERLIN TO COMPLETE DISCUSSIONS WITH PANAM AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

3. IN OUR LATEST CONVERSATION THIS MORNING, RUNNETTE TOLD US THAT HE WAS ALREADY ENGAGED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH BEA'S MANAGER RE JET FUEL SHARING. WHILE THERE HAD BEEN LITTLE MOVEMENT THUS FAR, HE SEEMED REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT SOMETHING WOULD BE WORKED OUT BEFORE THE END OF THE WEEK, SINCE HE CONTINUES TO BELIEVE BP DELIVERY RESTRICTIONS ARE IMMINENT. HIS MOST RECENT TENTATIVE ESTIMATE OF PANAM FLIGHT REDUCTIONS OCCASIONED BY A FUEL CUT WAS SOMEWHAT LESS PESSIMISTIC THAN THE POSITION AS REPORTED PARA 2 REFTTEL B. IN ANY CASE, RUNNETTE PLANS NO RPT NO UNILATERAL REDUCTIONS IN IGS SERVICE BEFORE MONDAY, NOV 26, BY WHICH TIME HE HOPES TO HAVE RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS WITH BEA AS WELL AS THE IMPACT OF FRG/BERLIN'S FIRST SUNDAY DRIVING PROHIBITION. RUNNETTE MADE THE ADDITIONAL POINT THAT HE BELIEVED THE QUESTION OF THE 10,000 FT ALTITUDE RESTRICTION IN THE CORRIDORS SHOULD BE REVIEWED ONCE AGAIN, SINCE AN INCREASE OF ONLY 8,000 FT IN ALTITUDE WOULD PERMIT PANAM TO SAVE AN AVERAGE OF 6,000 US GALS.

4. DURING MONDAY LUNCHEON DISCUSSION (NOV 19), WE INFORMED FRG FONOFF OFFICIAL KRONECK OF CUTBACK IN FUEL DELIVERIES TO PANAM AND LIKELY CUTBACK IN IGS SERVICE AS A RESULT. KRONECK RESPONDED THAT ON PRINCIPLE FRG WOULD WANT TO SEE IGS LESS AFFECTED BY FUEL SHORTAGE THAN OTHER SERVICES AND THAT GERMAN AUTHORITIES WERE FOLLOWING THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE PRESENT BEA/PANAM DISCUSSIONS FOR FUEL DISTRIBUTION OFFER THE BEST IMMEDIATE MEANS OF RESOLVING FUEL SCARCITY SITUATION ON THE IGS. WE WILL FOLLOW DISCUSSIONS CAREFULLY AND RAISE THE PROBLEM AGAIN WITH THE BRITISH, AND AS APPROPRIATE THE FRG, IF DESIRED PROGRESS NOT ACHIEVED.
HILLENBRAND

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